IN THE CLAIMS:

Amend the claims as follows.

Claim 1. (Canceled)

2. (Previously Presented) A protein comprising a recombinant uricase protein of a mammalian species which has been modified to insert one or more lysine residues wherein said recombinant protein is a chimeric protein of two or more mammalian amino acid sequences.

3. (Original) A protein of claim 2 wherein said recombinant uricase chimeric protein comprises 304 amino acids, the first 225 N-terminal portion of said 304 amino acids being amino acids 1-225 of porcine uricase and the remaining 79 amino acids of said 304 amino acids being amino acids 226-304 of baboon uricase.

4. (Original) A protein of claim 2 wherein said recombinant uricase chimeric protein comprises 304 amino acids, the first 288 N-terminal portion of said 304 amino acids being amino acids 1-288 of porcine uricase and the remaining 16 amino acids of said 304 amino acids being amino acids 289-304 of baboon uricase.

5. (Original) A recombinant uricase protein selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO:s 2 , 4, 8, 9, 10 and 11.

6. (Previously Presented) An isolated and purified nucleic acid molecule coding the recombinant uricase of claim 2.

7. (Original) An isolated and purified nucleic acid molecule coding the recombinant uricase of claim 3.

8. (Original) An isolated and purified nucleic acid molecule coding a recombinant uricase of claim 4.

9. (Original) An isolated and purified nucleic acid molecule coding a recombinant uricase of claim 5.

10. (Original) An isolated and purified nucleic acid molecule of claim 9 having a base sequence of SEQ ID NO:1.

11. (Original) An isolated and purified nucleic acid molecule of claim 9 having a base sequence of SEQ ID NO:3.

12. (Previously Presented) A vector comprising a nucleic acid molecule of claim 2.

13. (Original) A vector comprising a nucleic acid molecule of claim 9.

14. (Original) A host cell comprising a vector according to claim 12.

15. (Original) A host cell comprising a vector according to claim 13.

16. (Previously Presented) A method of increasing the available non-deleterious PEG attachment sites in a uricase protein comprising mutating a uricase protein whereby at least one lysine residue is introduced therein.

17. (Previously Presented) A method of increasing the available non-deleterious PEG attachment sites in a uricase protein comprising mutating a uricase protein whereby at least one lysine residue is introduced therein in the place of an arginine.

18. (New) A protein comprising a recombinant uricase protein of a mammalian species which has been modified to include one or more lysine residues, said recombinant uricase protein comprising a C-terminal SRL sequence of a mammalian uricase.

19. (New) A protein comprising a recombinant uricase protein of a mammalian species which has been modified to include one or more lysine residues, wherein said recombinant uricase protein does not include the three carboxy terminal amino acids of a mammalian uricase.

20. (New) An isolated and purified nucleic acid molecule coding the recombinant uricase of claim 18.

21. (New) An isolated and purified nucleic acid molecule coding the recombinant uricase of claim 19.

22. (New) A vector comprising a nucleic acid molecule of claim 20.

23. (New) A vector comprising a nucleic acid molecule of claim 21.

24. (New) A host cell comprising a vector according to claim 22.

25. (New) A host cell comprising a vector according to claim 23.